



PILGRIM Resource Conservation and Development Area Council, Inc.

August 2002

Serving Communities within Bristol, Plymouth, Barnstable, Nantucket and Dukes Counties

15 Cranberry Highway, West Wareham, MA 02576 * Phone: 508 295 1317 x 130 or x 131 Fax: 508 291 2368

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Who We Are

Pilgrim Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area Council, Inc. is a nonprofit organization located in West Wareham, Massachusetts. The Pilgrim RC&D Council is made up of representatives from Conservation Districts, Regional Planning Agencies, County Commissioners and the Community at Large. These volunteers are familiar with the natural resource and economic development concerns of their communities.

The Pilgrim RC&D Council is dedicated to natural resource protection in a way that improves the economy and the environment.

Services

Support Local Farmers Buy Local !

Buy the freshest, best tasting, and most nutritious produce directly from our local farms. This year as you prepare to do your grocery shopping, make sure you have your own copy of the **SEMAP Harvest Handbook**. With over 200 listings, this Harvest Handbook is a fantastic shopping and recreation guide to farm stands, pick your own farms, retail and wholesale farm operations, farmers markets, area restaurants and supermarkets that feature locally-grown products.

You can pick up your copy of the Harvest Handbook at our office in West Wareham or give us a call at 508 295 1317 x 130 or 131.



Recognition

Michelle Dias Receives Hayward Memorial Scholarship Award

The 2002 Scholarship Award recipient is Michelle Dias, a junior at Bristol County Agricultural High School. The cash award for her essay on "The Importance of Agriculture" was presented at the High School's Annual Award Night on May 30. Michelle intends to pursue an education that will lead to a career in veterinary medicine.

Debi Hogan Receives Special Recognition Award

Debi Hogan received SRPEDD's special recognition award, an honor given only once a year to those who have demonstrated dedication toward raising environmental awareness in southeastern Massachusetts. As Massachusetts' Envirothon Coordinator, Debi has volunteered thousands of hours in service to our region's youth and to their educational development in the area of environmental health and our communities.

Congratulations Michelle and Debi!

Community Assistance

Town of Dennis Receives Environmental Review Team Assistance

The town of Dennis' Conservation Commission asked for and is receiving an environmental review of nearly 250 acres of land that borders fresh water ponds, Quivet Creek and Cape Cod Bay. The Pilgrim RC&D Council is coordinating a team of wildlife biologists, amphibian and reptile experts, rare species specialists, a botanist and a soil scientist to inventory and assess wildlife, wildlife habitat, rare and endangered species, and soils.

Results of the environmental review will provide the town with information regarding significant natural resources present in the area. The town may use this data to design methods to protect these resources.

The environmental review findings will be delivered to the Conservation Commission in September.

Towns Organize Agricultural Commissions

The towns of Dartmouth and Westport have established Town Agricultural Commissions as a result of southeastern Massachusetts residents wanting their towns to actively protect farming and farmlands and promote agricultural businesses.

Westport established their Agricultural Commission last year and Commission members are actively engaged in agricultural advocacy, right to farm issues, agricultural business development and farmland protection.

Dartmouth's Agricultural Commission members act as liaisons between the farming community and town decision-makers. They act as advocates and provide a voice for farmers, who are often invisible in our rapidly growing suburban communities.

For information call Irene Winkler at 508 295 1317 x130.

The Pilgrim RC & D Area Council, Inc.
15 Cranberry Highway
West Wareham, MA 02576

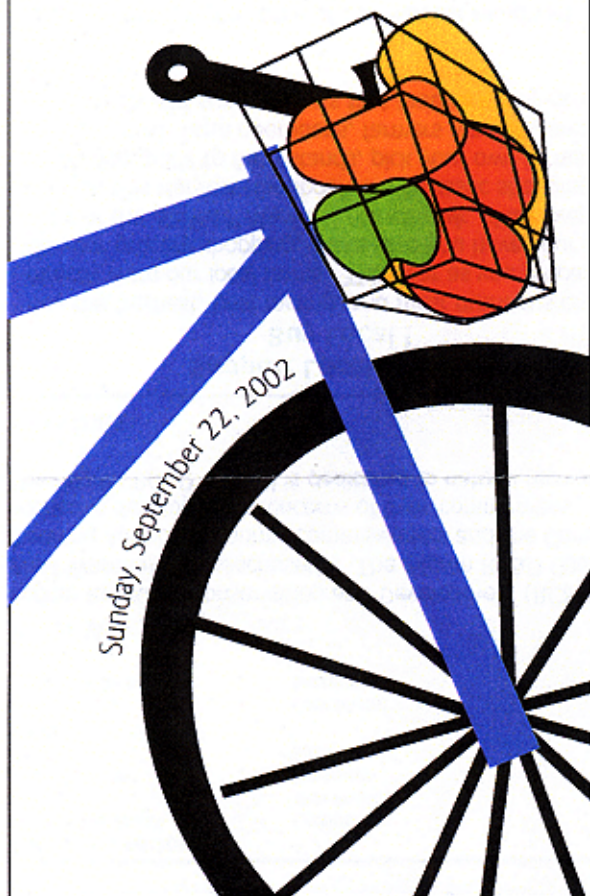
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All RC&D Program assistance is available to the public without regard to race, color, creed, national origin, marital status, sex, age or handicap.

www.umassd.edu/SEMAP

SEMAP Tour des Farms

Push the Pedal for Our Family Farms



SOUTHEASTERN
Massachusetts



Support Local Farms Ride in the "Tour des Farms"!

First Annual SEMAP Cycling and Farm Harvest Tasting Tour September 22, 2002

Southeastern Massachusetts Agricultural Partnership (SEMAP) Fundraiser

Spend a day biking the beautiful Southcoast Region – through historic New England villages and past farms and vineyards with breathtaking coastal views. Stop in at participating farms and taste the locally grown bounty, including fresh produce, herbs, cheeses, beefalo and homemade ice cream or shop the farmers market at Westport Rivers Vineyard. Use your SEMAP button to receive discounts and special offers at participating farm stands, farms and stores.

Cycling Routes begin and end at Westport Rivers vineyard and Winery at 417 Hixbridge Road in Westport. Sign in is at 10:00 a.m. and return time is by 4:00 p.m.

Riders are requested to raise funds through sponsorships. All money raised by cyclists helps to save our farms by supporting the programs of SEMAP. SEMAP programs provide much needed direct technical assistance to farmers.

If keeping farms and farmland in your community is important to you, make a difference by joining us to "Tour des farms."

To register call 508-295-2212 X50 Rick Connole
or for more information
call 508-295-1317 X5 Pilgrim RC & D Office
ask for a Tour des Farms
Registration Brochure.